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Intelligence Information Cable

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SECRET

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CITE

DIST 18 NOVEMBER 1968

COUNTRY

CHINA

DOI

14 NOVEMBER 1968

SUBJECT

SITUATION REPORT AS OF MID-NOVEMBER REGARDING INCREASED

SECURITY MEASURES IN CHINA

ACQ

SOURCE

FIELD NO.

1.5(c) 3.4(b)(1)

SUMMARY. SINCE MID-SEPTEMBER 1968 THERE HAS BEEN A CONTINUED AND INCREASED TIGHTENING OF SECURITY MEASURES IN CHINA. AN INCREASED STRINGENCY HAS BEEN NOTED IN BOTH BORDER CONTROLS AND INTERNAL TRAVEL RESTRICTIONS. WHEREAS BODY SEARCHES PREVIOUSLY HAD BEEN EXCEPTIONS, THEY NOW HAVE BECOME ALMOST THE RULE. IT IS NOT UNUSUAL FOR A TRAVELLER TO BE DETAINED, STRIPPED, HIS BAGGAGE AND CLOTHING THOROUGHLY SEARCHED AND TO BE CLOSELY INTERROGATED AS TO THE DETAILS OF HIS TRIP. TRAVEL WITHIN THE MAINLAND FOR THE RESIDENT, AS WELL AS THE TRAVELLER FROM ABROAD, IS GETTING INCREASINGLY DIFFICULT. TRAVELLERS ARE REQUIRED TO STRICTLY ADHERE TO THE TRAVEL AREAS SPECIFIED IN THEIR LETTERS OF INTRODUCTION.

FREQUENT ROAD CHECK POINTS MAKE TRAVEL TO NON-AUTHORIZED AREAS DIFFICULT4

IF NOT IMPOSSIBLE. THERE HAS BEEN EVIDENCE OF TWO UNUSUAL CONSIDERA-

LONS WHICH ARE FACETS OF THE PRESENT SECURITY SITUATION ON THE

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MAINLAND: FEAR OF CONTAMINATION BY OUTSIDE ELEMENTS AND INCREASED CONTROL OVER MAIL AND DISSEMINATION OF INFORMATION. THE FORMER HAS BEEN MANIFESTED IN RECENT INCIDENTS OF MAINLAND RESIDENTS REFUSING TO HAVE ANYTHING TO DO WITH OVERSEAS TRAVELLERS OR OF TRYING TO DISCOURAGE TRAVELLERS FROM FREELY WANDERING AROUND TOWN WHERE THEY MIGHT COME TO THE ATTENTION OF THE AUTHORITIES. CONTAMINATION ALSO INCLUDES INDIRECT CONTACT IN THE FORM OF REMITTANCES, TELEPHONE CALLS, LETTERS, TELEGRAMS AND THE LIKE. NOW THAT A SEMBLANCE OF ORDER HAS BEEN RESTORED SINCE THE HEIGHT OF THE CHAOS OF THE CULTURAL REVOLUTION, IT APPEARS THAT THE AUTHORITIES ARE MAKING AN EFFORT TO LIMIT THE FLOW OF INFORMATION OUT OF THE MAINLAND BE IT THROUGH MAIL, NEWSPAPERS OR SMUGGLED DOCUMENTS.

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IN ADDITION TO CHINESE COMMUNIST EFFORTS TO CONTROL

THE MAIL FLOW, THEY ALSO HAVE INITIATED A PROGRAM OF LIMITING THE NUMBER OF JOURNALS AND DOCUMENTS THAT REACH THE OUTSIDE WORLD.

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OF SUMMARY.

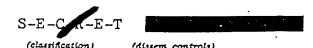
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1.5(c) 3.4(b)(1)

SINCE MID-SEPTEMBER THERE HAS BEEN A CONTINUED AND INCREASED TIGHTENING OF SECURITY IN CHINA INCLUDING AREAS HITHERTO RELATIVELY FREE FROM CONTROL DUE TO CHAOS OF CULTURAL REVOLUTION. THE CHINESE COMMUNIST GOVERNMENT, PRIMARILY THROUGH THE ORGANS OF THE PEOPLE'S LIBERATION ARMY (PLA) AND THE NEWLY CREATED WORKERS PROVOST CORPS. HAS TAKEN ADVANTAGE OF WHAT APPEARS TO BE THE DEMISE OF CULTURAL REVOLUTION TO REGIMENT, REORGANIZE AND RESTRICT THE CHINESE POPULACE. USING THE TRIED AND TRUE METHOD OF RECTIFICATION, PRESENTLY OPERATING UNDER THE SLOGAN OF STRUGGLE-CRITICISM-TRANSFORMATION", CHINESE COMMUNIST AUTHORITIES HAVE LAUNCHED A CAMPAIGN THAT LITERALLY ENCOMPASSES IN ITS LIST OF TARGETS ALL "BAD ELEMENTS" IN THE CHINESE COMMUNIST LITANY OF SINNERS. 1.5(c) 3.4(b)(1)THE PRESENT "PURIFICATION CAMPAIGN" LISTS 21 BAD ELEMENTS FROM THE OLD STANDBYS SUCH AS THE "LANDLORDS "RICH PEASANTS", TO THOSE SIMPLY REFERRED TO AS HAVING "LOOSE MORALS." NEEDLESS TO SAY "KMT ELEMENTS" RANK HIGH AMONG TARGETS AND THIS PARTICULAR ASPECT OF CAMPAIGN HAS LED TO INTENSIVE SEARCH AND ROUNDUP ACTIVITIES. THERE HAVE BEEN ALMOST DAILY REPORTS OF ARRESTS FROM KWANGTUNG. A MIXED CIVILIAN/PLA SECURITY TEAM SKARCHED THE 1.5(€) 3.4(b)(1) ENTIRE 27 STORIES OF THE "CANTON GUEST HOUSE" IN SEARCH OF "KMT AGENTS" AND IN THE PROCESS THOROUGHLY INTIMIDATED ALL OF THE GUESTS. TO THE STEPPED-UP "PURIFICATION CAMPAIGN" CHINA IS NOW IN THE PROCESS

OF TIDYING UP AND TIGHTENING DOWN IN TWO OTHER AREAS. DISPERSAL OF

1.5(c) 3.4(b)(1)

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S-E-CR-E-T

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THE RED GUARDS WITH THE MASS MOVEMENT OF YOUNG STUDENTS/INTELLECTUALS, FROM THE CITIES TO RURAL AREAS FOR A DOSE OF MANUAL LABOR HAS BEEN PARALLELED WITH AN INCREASING INTEREST IN PEASANTS THEMSELVES, THEIR WELFARE AND THEIR REGIMENTATION. ALMOST ISOLATED FROM THE EXCESSES OF CULTURAL REVOLUTION FOR THE PAST TWO YEARS, THE PEASANTS HAVE NOW BECOME THE OBJECT OF CON-SIDERABLE ATTENTION. PARADOXICALLY, THE ATTENTION HAS HAD A TWO-FOLD THRUST. ON THE SURFACE THE PEASANTS HAVE BEEN THE RECIPIENTS OF INCREASED MEDICAL ASSISTANCE, MORE AND BETTER SCHOOLING, AND IN GENERAL A LARGER SLICE OF THE SOCIALIST PIE. ON THE OTHER HAND, THE GOVERNMENT HAS APPEARED INTENT ON WITHDRAWING PRIVATE PLOTS, IN KWANGTUNG AT LEAST, THUS MINIMIZING THE INDIVIDUALISM OF THE PEASANTRY BY ONCE AGAIN COMMUNIZING THEIR EFFORTS. THIS LATTER ACTIVITY CANNOT HELP BUT ALIENATE SOME OF THE PEASANTRY, AS THE RETURN TO PRIVATE PLOT WAS UNDOUBTEDLY ONE OF THE MOST POPULAR DEVELOP-MENTS IN COUNTRYSIDE IN RECENT YEARS. FLOODING THE COUNTRYSIDE WITH URBAN YOUTH WILL UNDOUBTEDLY DISTURB THE PEASANTRY JUST AS THE FLOODING OF SCHOOLS THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY WITH WORKER/PEASANT "ADVISORS" HAS DISTURBED THE INTELLECTUAL CLASS. DESPITE WHAT APPEARS TO BE THE DEMISE OF THE CULTURAL REVOLUTION AND ATTENDANT CAMPAIGNS CITED ABOVE, THERE STILL HAS BEEN EVIDENCE OF FACTIONALISM. FIGHTING, INCLUDING SHELLING, WAS REPORTED ON 24 SEPTEMBER IN CHINCHIANG, FUKIEN, AND THERE HAVE BEEN REPORTS AS LATE AS EARLY NOVEMBER INDICATING A CONTINUING POWER STRUGGLE, A CONTRASTING BACKDROP TO A PERIOD OTHERWISE CHARACTERIZED BY THE

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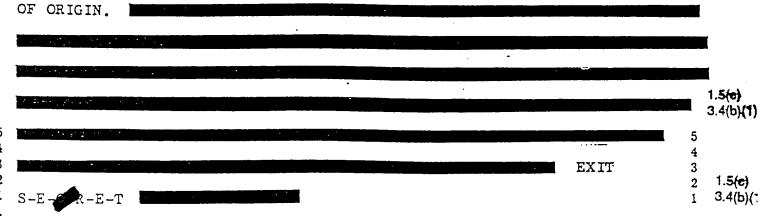
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RESTORATION OF ORDER AND CONTROL.

- 2. SPECIFIC SECURITY CONDITIONS. IN THE TRADITIONAL AREAS OF BORDER CONTROLS AND INTERNAL TRAVEL RESTRICTIONS, THE PAST TWO MONTHS HAVE WITNESSED AN INCREASED STRINGENCY TO THE POINT WHERE ONE RECENT TRAVELLER TO CANTON AND PEKING COMMENTED THAT HIS EIGHTEEN DAYS IN CHINA SEEMED LIKE EIGHTEEN YEARS. THE FOLLOWING IS A SUMMARY OF SECURITY CONSIDERATIONS IN THESE TRADITIONAL AREAS.
- A. BORDER CONTROLS. WHEREAS BODY SEARCHES PREVIOUSLY HAD BEEN EXCEPTIONS, THEY NOW HAVE BECOME ALMOST THE RULE IN CASE OF TRAVELLERS TO THE MAINLAND PARTICULARLY AT SHUMCHUN. IT IS NOT UNUSUAL FOR A TRAVELLER TO BE DETAINED, STRIPPED, HIS BAGGAGE AND CLOTHING THOROUGHLY SEARCHED AND TO BE CLOSELY INTERROGATED AS TO THE DETAILS OF HIS TRIP. PUBLIC SECURITY BUREAU (PSB)/PLA TEAMS AT THE BORDER SEEM PRIMARILY INTERESTED IN WHY A TRAVELLER IS TRAVELLING TO CHINA, PRECISELY WHERE HE IS GOING, WHO HE IS GOING TO VISIT AND WHAT THE TRAVELLER DOES EITHER IN HONG KONG OR HIS POINT OF ORIGIN



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PROCEDURES ARE MIXED. TRAVEL DOCUMENTS MUST BE RETRIEVED AT THE PSB OFFICE BEFORE LEAVING AND A TRAVELLER IS OPEN TO INTERROGATION AT THIS POINT AND AT THE BORDER AS WELL.

INTERNAL TRAVEL. TRAVEL WITHIN THE MAINLAND FOR THE RESIDENT, AS WELL AS THE TRAVELLER FROM ABROAD, IS GETTING INCREASINGLY DIFFICULT. SOME OVERSEAS TRAVELLERS HAVE HAD DIFFICULTIES WHEN THEY ATTEMPTED TO TRAVEL BEYOND THE AREAS SPECIFIED IN THEIR "LETTER OF INTRODUCTION (LOI)" WITHOUT GETTING SPECIFIC APPROVAL FROM THE PSB OFFICE OR "PACIFICATION COMMITTEE IN THE AREA THEY HAD DESIGNATED AS THE PRIMARY LOCATION FOR THEIR VISIT. THE LOI IS NOW PRESENTED TO A NEWLY-ESTABLISHED "PACIFICATION COMMITTEE" COMPRISED OF A MIXED MILITARY AND CIVILIAN STAFF OF EIGHT MEMBERS. WITHOUT SPECIFIC PSB AUTHORIZATION TO TRAVEL, PRESUMABLY THE TRAVELLER WOULD NOT BE ABLE TO PURCHASE TRAVEL TICKETS. IF THE TRAVELLER DID GET TICKETS WITHOUT THE PSB AUTHORIZATION TO TRAVEL, WHICH IS POSSIBLE IN SOME OUTLYING AREAS WHERE CONTROL IS LESS UNIFORM, HE WOULD FACE THE CHANCE OF BEING STOPPED EN ROUTE BY AUTHORITIES AND HAVING HIS DOCUMENTS CHECKED. ONE TRAVELLER REPORTED MEMBERS OF THE WORKERS PROVOST CORPS STOPPED HIS BUS THREE TIMES DURING TRIP FROM CANTON TO TAISHAN TO CHECK 1.5(c) TRAVEL DOCUMENTS. 3.4(b)(1) 5 AS FOR TRAVELLERS ON BIKE OR FOOT, IT APPEARS THAT 2 1 1.5(c)

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1.5(c) 3.4(b)(1)

PLA/PSB WORKERS PROVOST TEAMS HAVE COMBINED TO SET UP CHECK POINTS ON ALMOST EVERY MAJOR ARTERY IN AND OUT OF CANTON AND THERE IS REASON TO BELIEVE THAT THIS COVERAGE IS PROBABLY IN EVIDENCE ELSEHWERE IN CHINA.

ONE EXCEPTION SHOULD BE NOTED. ONE TRAVELLER WAS ABLE TO FLY FROM CANTON TO NANNING WITH RELATIVE EASE.

3. UNUSUAL SECURITY CONSIDERATIONS. THERE HAS BEEN EVIDENCE OF TWO NOT NECESSARILY NEW, UNUSUAL CONSIDERATIONS WHICH ARE FACETS OF THE PRESENT SECURITY SITUATION ON THE MAINLAND. BOTH, IT APPEARS, ARE SPAWNED FROM THE ALL-ENCOMPASSING "PURIFICATION CAMPAIGN" DESCRIBED ABOVE:

A. FEAR OF CONTAMINATION BY OUTSIDE ELEMENTS. THERE HAVE B	EEN
INSTANCES OF FAMILY AND FRIENDS, REFUSING TO HAVE ANYTHING TO DO WITH	A .
TRAVELLER TO THE MAINLAND.	
	1.5 (c)
ACCORDING TO A 5 NOVEMBER REPORT, THE HUNG	3.4(b)(1)
CH'U COMMUNE OF HAI FENG COUNTRY, KWANGTUNG, HAS DECLARED THAT "VISIT	ORS
FROM HONG KONG ARE 'UNDESIREABLE ELEMENTS'" AND CONSEQUENTLY THE	5
RESIDENTS ARE AFRAID TO BE SEEN ASSOCIATING WITH ANY VISITORS.	3
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PERIODIC HOUSE TO HOUSE SEARCHES MAKE IT DIFFICULT TO CONCEAL A VISITOR FOR LONG.

THIS CONTAMINATION INCLUDES INDIRECT CONTACT ALSO IN THE FORM OF REMITTANCES, TELEPHONE CALLS, LETTERS, TELEGRAMS AND THE LIKE. CANTON AUTHORITIES RECENTL CONDUCTED INVESTIGATIONS OF RESIDENTS RECEIVING REMITTANCES FROM ABROAD3.4(b)(1) ALL RECIPIENTS WERE REQUIRED TO IDENTIFY THE SOURCES OF THE REMITTANCES AND THE AMOUNTS RECEIVED. THE AUTHORITIES PAID PARTICULAR ATTENTION TO INFRE-QUENT REMITTANCES, WHICH PRESUMABLY THEY MIGHT INTERPRET AS PAYMENT FOR SERVICES RENDERED.

INCREASED CONTROL OVER MAIL AND DISSEMINATION OF INFORMATION. THE VERY NATURE OF THE CULTURAL REVOLUTION AND THE REQUISITE PARTICIPATION BY ALMOST EVERY ELEMENT IN THE COUNTRY HAS MADE UNIFORM SECURITY CONTROLS DIFFICULT IF NOT NEXT TO IMPOSSIBLE. MAIL CENSORSHIP, LONG AN ACTIVE AND IMPORTANT PART OF CHINESE COMMUNIST SECURITY PRACTICES, REQUIRES MANPOWER, COORDINATION AND CONSIDERABLE INVESTIGATION AND FOLLOW-THROUGH IF IT IS TO SERVE ITS PURPOSE. SUCH A PROGRAM APPARENTLY COULD NOT BE ADEQUATELY MAINTAINED DURING THE PERIOD OF CHAOS THAT MARKED THE HEIGHT OF THE

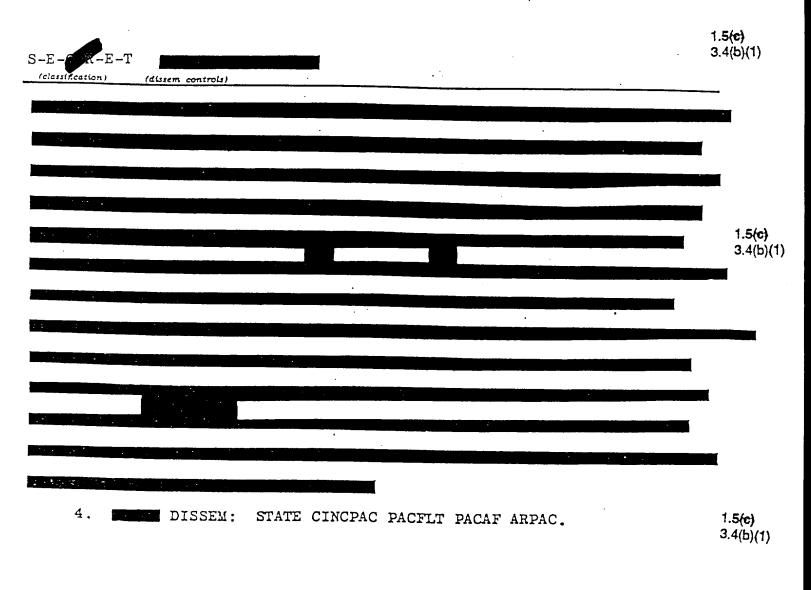
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CULTURAL REVOLUTION. HOWEVER, NOW THAT A SEMBLANCE OF ORDER HAS BEE	EN .
RESTORED IT APPEARS THAT THE AUTHORITIES ARE MAKING AN EFFORT TO LIM	IIT
THE FLOW OF INFORMATION OUT OF THE MAINLAND BE IT THROUGH MAIL, NEWS	SPAPERS,
OR SMUGGLED DOCUMENTS.	
	1.5(c)
	3.4(b)
AUTHORITIES AR	E IN
PROCESS OF CRACKING DOWN IN AREA OF COMMUNICATIONS BY MAIL NOW THAT	A
SEMBLANCE OF ORDER HAS BEEN INSTALLED. IN ADDITION TO THE CHINESE C	OMMUNIST
EFFORTS TO CONTROL THE MAIL FLOW, THEY APPEAR TO HAVE INITIATED A PR	OGRAM
OF LIMITING THE NUMBER OF JOURNALS AND DOCUMENTS THAT REACH THE OUTS	IDE
WORLD.	
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